

Synopsis of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Food Policy

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Updated: 1/13/09

For further details, see

[PUB-3000, Chap. 19, Personal Protective Equipment](#)
[PPE section of the Chemical Hygiene and Safety Plan](#)
[Food and Beverage section of the Chemical Hygiene and Safety Plan](#)

19.1 Overview of PPE Program

The Laboratory requires suitable equipment to protect employees from hazards in the workplace as prescribed in 29 CFR 1910.132. The Environment, Health and Safety (EH&S) Division advises on the protective equipment required for a task, but the supervisor of the operation must obtain this equipment and see that it is used.

Protective clothing is not a substitute for adequate engineering controls.

Appendix B to 29 CFR 1910, Subpart I, provides nonmandatory compliance guidelines for making a hazard assessment to determine the type of personal protective equipment needed for activities and operations. These guidelines are available from an EH&S [Industrial Hygienist](#).

19.1.1 LBNL PPE Policy

Area Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements must be established for all Technical Areas. [**Technical Areas** generally include laboratories, shops, workrooms, and similar areas. Offices, conference rooms, food preparation, and consumption areas such as the cafeteria, kitchenettes, and break rooms are generally not Technical Areas.] The Area PPE requirements must be listed on the LBNL entrance placard which can be downloaded from the Laboratory's [Chemical Hygiene and Safety Plan](#). These Area PPE requirements are in effect for the entire Technical Area.

Minimum Area PPE requirements for specific Technical Areas are as follows:

Laboratories -- where chemicals or biological materials are stored or handled: Safety protective eyewear (e.g., safety glasses with side shields), long pants and closed toed shoes must be worn at all times. Additional personal protective equipment may be necessary when handling chemicals or biological materials (e.g., goggles, lab coat and chemically resistant protective gloves for handling hazardous chemicals). Consult the Chemical Hygiene and Safety Plan, the Job Hazards Analysis, and any formal authorizations for more details.

Shops -- or other process areas where a potential eye hazard exists (e.g., machine shops, shops using hazardous chemicals): Safety protective eyewear (e.g., safety glasses with side shields), long pants and closed toed shoes must be worn at all times. Additional personal protective equipment may be necessary when handling chemicals or biological materials (e.g., goggles, lab coat and chemically resistant protective gloves for handling hazardous chemicals) or when performing other tasks. Consult the [Chemical Hygiene and Safety Plan](#), [PUB-3000, Chapter 25 \(Machine Safeguarding, Shop and Lab Machine Safety\)](#), the [Job Hazards Analysis](#), and any formal authorizations for more details.

Visitors and persons walking through a Technical Area but not performing work in that Area must wear the minimum Area PPE, but generally are not required to wear additional PPE assigned on the basis of performing operations.

Note: Until March 1, 2009, if the policy above is not implemented and followed, the following, prior policy, must be followed:

[Safety glasses with side shields, long pants, and closed toed shoes must be worn whenever handling chemicals. Other PPE may be necessary (e.g. goggles, face shield, lab coat and appropriate gloves) when handling hazardous chemicals or for other hazardous tasks.]

19.1.2 PPE Use Exceptions

Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the EH&S Division Director using the process described in [Chapter 19, Appendix A](#).

19.1.3 PPE Responsibilities

19.1.3.1 Area Safety Leaders [The **Area Safety Leader** oversees coordination of safety issues within the Area.]

- Determining (through consultation with Supervisors and Work Leads having authorized operations) the Area PPE requirements for their assigned Technical Areas;
- Assuring that entrances are posted with these minimum requirements.

19.1.3.2 Supervisors and Work Leads

Supervisors and Work Leads are responsible for:

- Reviewing their operations within a Technical Area and determining process-dependant PPE requirements over and above the Area PPE requirements for that Area;
- Re-evaluating PPE requirement whenever the work or the physical layout changes;
- Coordinating with the Area Safety Leader to assure that the hazards associated with their operations are reflected in the entrance placard; and
- Ensuring PPE is available for Workers as required.

19.1.3.3 Workers

All Workers in Technical Areas, including but not limited to Area Safety Leaders, Supervisors, and Work Leads, are responsible for:

- Knowing the Personal Protective Equipment requirements for Technical Areas in which they work;
- Complying with the applicable PPE requirements; and
- Informing others in the area of these requirements.

19.1.3.4 EH&S Division Director

The EH&S Division Director is responsible for approving any exceptions to this policy.

Food and Beverage Policy

Food and beverages (including water, gum, and medicines) may not be consumed or stored in Technical Areas. (See http://www.lbl.gov/ehs/chsp/html/work_practices.shtml#Food)